THANK GOD FOR THE END

One of the stock jokes of religion is the man with the placard which reads, "Repent, for the End is nigh." Recently we were given a variation on that theme in the form of the cartoon we reproduce inside this news-letter!

Then there is the gift we were given, a coffee-table book called, "Endtimes, A Doomsday Catalog!" One of the chapters makes the point that in every age since Christ, and roughly every 80 years, there has been a religious movement that proclaimed the End to be very close. None of them have been proved right yet! It seems that great turbulence in human affairs always evokes the expectation of the End.

The End is the end of an existence dominated by pain and death.

Black humor is one response to the approach of the End. Fear — terror — is another. But there is a third response, the response of welcome and praise. For beyond the terror of the End there lies the New Beginning. The End is the end of Hell, the end of an existence which is dominated by pain and death. And the New Beginning is the beginning of Heaven, the beginning of an existence of love in the presence of God.

Rev. John Christopher

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INSIDE
SEPTEMBER 1981
Survival
Thank God for the End
Newsbriefs

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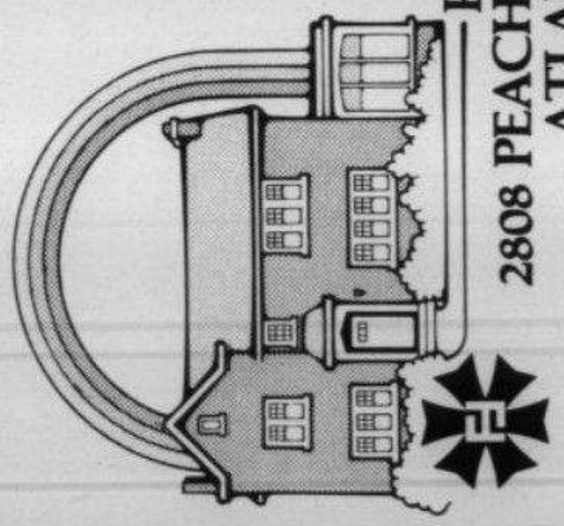
". . . my words will never pass away."
Luke 21:33



FAITH CENTER,
2808 PEACHTREE RD., N.W.
ATLANTA, GA. 30305
TEL: (404) 237-6570

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 1-2PM.
LORD'S DAY CELEBRATION.

Our weekly worship service. Healing, praise, music, fellowship.

SUNDAY, 2-5PM.
HEALING PRAYERS.

A time set aside after the service for individual prayer and counseling with a minister.

THURSDAY, 12-1PM.
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY.

Study, praise and inner healing. With Rev. John Christopher. Please call for location.

THURSDAY, 7:30-8:30PM.
THE CIRCLE OF POWER.

The weekly prayer group for members of this Fellowship. Non-members welcome. Prayers for healing. With Rev. Raphael de Peyer.

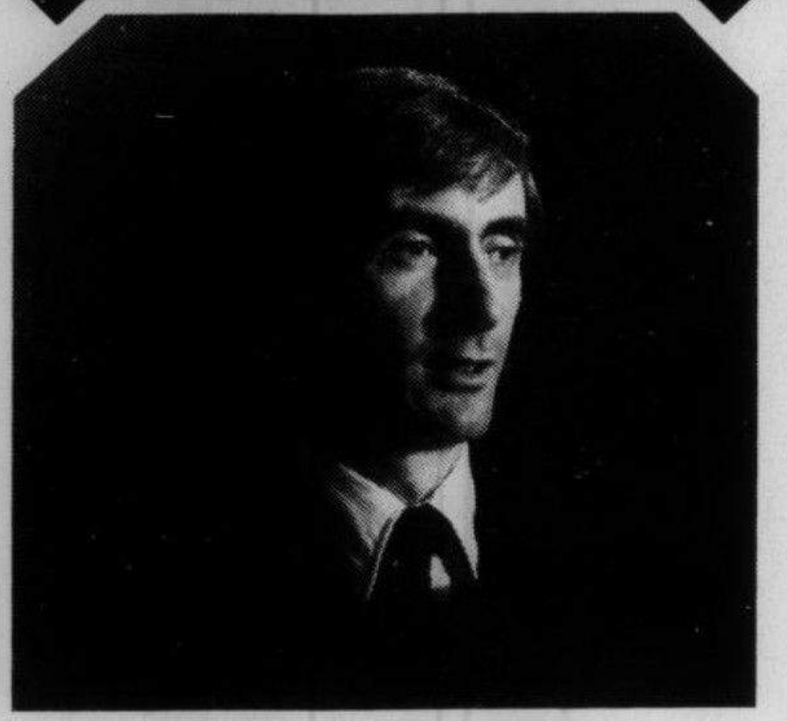
THURSDAY, 8:30-9:30PM.
BIBLE STUDY.

Each week we look at a particular subject that affects the lives of all of us. With Rev. John Christopher.

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 11AM-5PM.

What are they? Has God blessed you personally with His gifts? Come and discover more about yourself and the gifts with which God blesses us. With Rev. Raphael de Peyer.

SURVIVAL



If, like me, you believe that these are the End Times, then perhaps you have asked yourself the question, "Is there some action I should take to prepare for the End?" We read of those who climb a mountain or go out into the desert in the belief that on a certain day they will be raptured. We read of "Survivalists," who stock food, weapons and so on in secret hide-aways. One way or another a great many people, the world over, including many non-Christians, are preparing for the final cataclysms. This should not surprise us for God tells us, **" . . . I will pour out my Spirit on all people . . . " (Joel 2:28).**

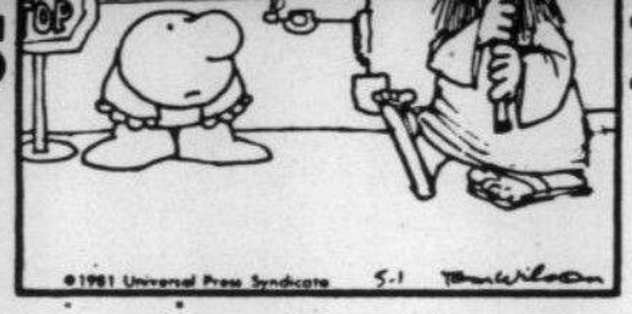
The signs of the End are all around us: in the arms race, in food shortages, in social unrest. But if we only put our trust in the means of physical survival we miss the whole point. Paul tells us, **"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against . . . the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms," (Ephesians 6:12).** Satan is in charge of the world; we need to be clear about that. He offered it to Jesus if Jesus would worship him (Luke 4:6). So, our battle is against the dominion of Satan, and Jesus tells us how to win that battle. In surrendering ourselves to Him we are protected by Him. That does not mean that we will not suffer, know our share of grief and pain, but that, **" . . . he who stands firm to the end will be saved," Matthew 10:22).** Jesus says that while we are IN the world, yet we need not be OF it. In other words we don't have to subscribe to the values of the world — the lies, the hypocrisy, the negativity — which are Satan's values. Jesus preached a different Kingdom, the Kingdom of Heaven. He said, **"My Kingdom is not of this world . . . " (John 18:36).**

It is His Kingdom that we seek, and which we begin to experience through our acceptance of Him. Who can describe to us the full glory and majesty of that Kingdom, which is our inheritance if we forsake the world and follow Him? Perhaps each of us has a special Biblical passage that pulls at the heartstrings of our own private longing. I know that a particular favorite of mine is contained in Jeremiah (31:31-34), the New Covenant. One thing is absolutely certain: His Kingdom is close at hand, and if we walk in step with the Spirit we will know what to do. But it will be that bond with Jesus Christ that saves us, not the dried beans we have stored in a cave someplace!

Rev. Raphael de Peyer, Director

Ziggy

NEWS BRIEFS



OUTREACHES PLANNED

Revs. John Christopher and Charity Benedicte are planning a trip to Charlotte, N.C., September 24-27. Their work will focus mainly on the plight of God's animals. If you live in the area and would like to help with this outreach, please write Rev. Christopher at Faith Center.

October 11-17 will see Revs. Raphael de Peyer and Jana Bernadette in Chicago. The mission will conclude with an all-day workshop on Spiritual Gifts on Saturday, October 17th.

DISCERNMENT

Early August saw the always popular workshop, "The Gift of Discerning of Spirits," conducted by Rev. Raphael de Peyer. We, and indeed many Spirit-filled Christians, see particular significance to this gift in the End Times, and urge you to check our Calendar section for the return of this workshop.

THE PRISON MINISTRY

Current programs continue at Death Row in Jackson, Georgia, at U.S.P., Atlanta, and at the Atlanta Women's Transitional Center.

ANIMAL ACTION

Rev. John Christopher recently took part in the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Symposium at the University of Georgia campus in Athens, Georgia. The purpose was to bring together wildlife researchers and managers to speak about those species in need of conservation. Thanks to growing public concern this subject is becoming increasingly important, for which we praise God.

It has been especially rewarding to see an increasing number of people speaking out on behalf of God's creatures. Two to whom we have provided literature to further their efforts, Disciple Margery Cunningham and Gary Sumner, have drawn enthusiastic responses, and Gary recently delivered a very good address to the Toastmasters' Club. If you are guided to join in this important evangelistic effort, please don't hesitate to contact us for materials and any other help we can provide.

Many animal lovers are aware that there is legislation pending before the U.S. Congress, which it is hoped will be introduced this year. The bill known as, "The Research Modernization Act" (HR556), provides for 30–50% of federal funds granted to scientific research to be directed towards the use of non-animal techniques. Its passage, which is devoutly to be prayed for, would ensure that experiments done on animals would be greatly reduced. Over 70 Congressmen are already sponsoring the bill, and we urge all readers to write your Congressman and ask him to support and sponsor it. If you would like to know more about the bill and the subject generally, please write for our paper, "Animal Experiments & the Alternatives." Rev. Raphael de Peyer, author of the paper, recently taped a show on the subject for Atlanta Interfaith Broadcasters, which will be syndicated in the Atlanta area.

PET ADOPTION

Two beautiful pure black male kittens in need of a good home. Please call 237-6570.